

Senate Resolution 1236

By: Senator Jackson of the 2nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending First Lady Lillian Sharon Williams Ellis on the occasion of
2 her retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, First Lady Lillian Sharon Williams Ellis has long been recognized by the
4 citizens of this state for the vital role that she has played in leadership and her deep personal
5 commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis has diligently and conscientiously devoted her time, talents, and
7 energy with 30 years of superlative service as a Music Specialist with the State Board of
8 Education; and

9 WHEREAS, she served the students of Walton County for 17 years before uplifting the lives
10 of elementary and middle school students of Chatham County, where she performed with
11 honor and distinction for 13 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis leads the congregation of First Bryan Baptist Church as First Lady,
13 where her husband, Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr., has served as pastor for the last 25
14 years; and

15 WHEREAS, during her years as First Lady of First Bryan Baptist Church, Mrs. Ellis has
16 served as chairperson of the Cultural Affairs/Archive Ministry and the Church Anniversary
17 Committee, has led the Sisterhood Ministry as president, and has been an active member of
18 the Trustee, Deaconess, Tour, and Hospitality Ministries; and

19 WHEREAS, her beautiful voice and talent as a musician has inspired others and uplifted the
20 congregation as Director of the Edward L. Ellis Children's Choir, Director of the Sunday
21 Morning Hymn, and a member of the music staff; and

22 WHEREAS, a community leader, Mrs. Ellis has served as a member and chairperson for
23 Dollars for Scholars, as a member of the City of Savannah's Cultural Affairs Commission,
24 and is the founding president of Sponsors of New and Talented Artist, Inc. (SONATA); and

25 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis is a member of Savannah Baptist Ministers Wives and Ministers
26 Widows, Savannah Interdenominational Ministers Wives and Ministers Widows,
27 International Interdenominational Ministers Wives and Ministers Widows, Spelman College
28 Alumnae Association, National Association of Retired Music Educators, and Georgia Music
29 Educators Association; and

30 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis's guidance and inspiration over the past 25 years have helped
31 establish First Bryan Baptist Church as a community presence, allowing the church to serve
32 as an uplifting spiritual beacon of hope.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend First Lady Lillian Sharon Williams Ellis for her efficient, effective, unselfish, and
35 dedicated service to her community and the congregation of First Bryan Baptist Church;
36 congratulate her upon the grand occasion of her retirement; and extend to her their most
37 sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to First Lady Lillian Sharon Williams Ellis.